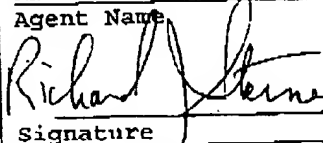


THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Cottone et al.
Serial No. : 09/862,690
Filed : May 22, 2001
For : SELF-EXPANDING STENT
Examiner : Sarah K. Webb
Group Art Unit : 3731

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| Richard J. Sterner | 35,372 |
| Agent Name | PTO Reg. No. |
|  | March 15, 2005 |
| Signature | Date of Signature |

Attention: Examiner Sarah K. Webb

Group Art Unit: 3731

Facsimile No.: 703-872-9306

No. of Pages: 15

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed November 24, 2004 and as a follow-up to the February 9.

2005 interview among the Examiner, her Supervisor, one of Applicants and the undersigned. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks following.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants hereby request a one-month extension of time extending the time for response from February 24, 2005 up to and including March 24, 2005. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required \$120 extension fee to Deposit Account No. 23-1703. Any other fees which may be due for any reason in connection with this Petition may likewise be charged.